

of the Form PTO-1449 filed on January 24, 2000 and to indicate thereon that the cited publications were considered and made of record.

Restriction was requested under 35 USC 121 as follows:

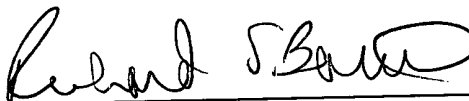
Group I : claims 1-41 drawn to a method of shaping a semisolid metal comprising crystal nuclei and to an apparatus for producing semisolid metal; and

Group II: claims 42-57 drawn to a method of shaping a semisolid metal comprising a crystal grain refiner.

Applicants elect Group I (claims 1 to 41).

If the Examiner has any comments, questions, objections or recommendations, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the telephone number given below for prompt action.

Respectfully submitted,



RICHARD S. BARTH
REG. NO. 28,180

FRISHAUF, HOLTZ, GOODMAN, LANGER & CHICK, P.C.
767 THIRD AVENUE - 25TH FLOOR
NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10017-2023
Tel. No. (212) 319-4900
Fax No. (212) 319-5101
RSB/rsr